

Yellow Southend Advertiser

Week ending Friday March 2, 2018

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Local News

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REVELLERS hit the beach on Tuesday in Southend - but not to get an early start on their summer tans.

Heavy snowfall turned the waterfront into a playground for sledging and snowball fights as people made the most of the unusual conditions. See page 7 for more photos.

Photo by Martin Dalton

'CLEANUP YOUR ACT'



Filth: recent measures of toxic pollutants at the Bell Junction were dangerously above legal limits

● Judge backs lawyers' plans for urgent government action on nitrogen dioxide

SOUTHEND is among 33 local authorities across the country that will have to make plans to tackle illegal air pollution levels after environmental lawyers ClientEarth won a court case against the Government.

Ministers will now have to ensure that 33 councils, including Southend, draw up urgent plans to reduce pollution following a ruling made at the High Court last week.

In its most recent annual Air Quality Annual Status Report in June 2017, Southend was found to have illegal mean levels of nitrogen dioxide at four different locations in the borough in 2016.

The highest annual mean concen-

tration of the pollutant was on Prince Avenue, at the Bell Junction in Westcliff, which reached 49.21 microgrammes per cubic metre. This is above the European Union's legal annual mean limit of 40 mg per m3.

Other locations where the annual mean figure for nitrogen dioxide in 2016 was above legal limits were in West Street and Victoria Avenue.

At the High Court last Wednesday, Mr Justice Garnham ruled that current plans to reduce nitrogen dioxide levels - drawn up by the Government last year - were unlawful because they did not comply either with a European directive

or English regulations.

Justice Garnham ordered ministers to prepare fresh plans and a timeline for implementing them by October 5.

He added that ClientEarth could challenge new plans without the usual court procedures if they were not satisfied with new Government measures.

ClientEarth lawyer Anna Heslop said: "We are delighted the court has ordered the Government to urgently take further action to fix the dangerous air pollution in our towns and cities."

Southend Council set up an air quality management area in 2016

that covered the area around The Bell Junction.

Cllr Tony Cox, executive councillor for transport, waste and regulatory services, said the council had employed an air quality expert to make an Air Quality Action Plan for the area.

"Taking action to improve air quality is crucial in order to improve the health of the population," he said.

"We are analysing the feedback from the consultation and will use this to develop the plan further and present it to the council's cabinet, hopefully in June.

● Turn to page 5

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Short arm of the law

Chief constable to take no action against deputy following misconduct hearing

THE DEPUTY Chief Constable of Essex Police will face no punishment after a misconduct panel found he shoved a chief superintendent over a desk and threw a stress ball at his throat.

DCC Matthew Horne was also found to have called a superintendent the C-word.

Last month Horne faced a week-long misconduct tribunal, where the three allegations were found to be proven.

But the panel claimed his actions had only amounted to misconduct, not gross misconduct, and recommended the most lenient possible sanction – “management advice”.

In a statement issued last week, Chief Constable Stephen Kavanagh announced that he was in fact taking no action at all against his deputy, because he felt that having to undergo a misconduct hearing had been sufficient punishment in itself.

He described Horne's aggressive outbursts as an “unfortunate series of events” and “three isolated incidents”, which only added up to 10 minutes out of a



DECISION: Chief Constable Stephen Kavanagh 28-year career.

In a statement issued by the Essex Police press office, Horne claimed his actions had stemmed from his “passion” for good policing.

He said: “I wish to wholeheartedly and unreservedly apologise for any distress caused to my colleagues.



APOLOGY: DCC Matthew Horne

“I only want the very best in policing and for the people we serve, and I will continue in this vein.

“I do not want today to detract for one moment from the excellent work done by my brave colleagues of Essex Police who, day in, day out, put themselves in harm's way to protect the

public. My motivation has, and always will be, to improve policing in order to protect our communities from harm.

“This passion is what drives me every day.”

In his own statement, Chief Constable Kavanagh said: “The independent panel found that DCC Horne is a police officer with an exceptional record of service to the public.

“However, on three isolated occasions between 2015 and mid-2016, DCC Horne's conduct let himself and his colleagues down.

“As an officer and as a leader, DCC Horne's conduct in those three incidents was not acceptable in a workplace that must operate – even in times of the highest levels of stress and risk – on a basis of trust, respect and comradeship.

“He made mistakes, he must acknowledge them and he must learn from them.

“But I have no doubt that DCC Horne and his family have found the last year to be punitive in the distress it has caused.

“The role of the sanction panel is not to punish for the sake of punishment.

“It is to consider a sanction that best serves policing and the public's confidence in it, taking into account the likelihood of recurrence.

“People who are dishonest, predatory or criminal have no place in policing.

“But policing is a very human endeavour and I am concerned about any system which has no tolerance for mistakes, especially when weighed against a service record that has done so much to protect so many.

“My decision, taking into account the facts of the case, of what the independent panel referred to as ‘stale’ incidents, DCC Horne's record of service and his behaviour across everything but 10 minutes of his 28 years of service, is that the holding of these very public and transparent proceedings itself has been salutary and, in my view, properly satisfies the public interest and maintains confidence in the police.”

‘Final sanction decision should sit with panel, says PFCC



SURPRISE: Roger Hirst

ROGER Hirst, Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner issued a statement on Monday after the sanction hearing of DCC Matthew Horne and the decision of Chief Constable Stephen Kavanagh not to impose further punishment.

Mr Hirst said: “The vast majority of Essex Police officers and staff behave with exceptional professionalism. It is important that if an issue or complaint is raised in relation to any police officer, regardless of their seniority or rank,

that those issues are fully investigated.

“Following the finding of misconduct by the independent panel in the case of DCC Matthew Horne, I was surprised that their recommendation for management advice was not then followed by the chief constable and that he imposed a lesser sanction.

“I have spoken at length with the chief constable in order to understand the rationale for his decision. I have scrutinised the independent panel report,

the legal advice and the chief constable's own decision report. I have also discussed with him what lessons can be learnt for the future.

“I have satisfied myself that due process was followed in this case and that all matters were dealt with lawfully.

“However, I believe that in such cases, the final sanction decision should sit with the independent panel and not with a chief constable. This would more clearly demonstrate independence.

“I am therefore pleased that the Home Office will shortly be consulting on new police regulations that will, amongst other things, give independent panels the power to make decisions on misconduct and also to determine sanctions. I believe this will be a positive development for public confidence in policing. The chief constable and I will continue to work together to ensure that lessons are learnt from this case to help deliver improvements moving forward.”

NEWS IN BRIEF

PEACOCKS in Chalkwell Park have been re-homed to a private estate.

The birds, which have been at the park for a number of years, were re-housed last weekend to a 24-acre estate.

Cllr Ann Holland, deputy council leader, said residents regularly told her that the accommodation at the park was not big enough for the birds.

She added: “While we have had bird experts check the premises and confirm that the accommodation is ample for the birds, I have listened to local people's feelings and accepted an offer for them to go to a private home where they will join other peafowl.

“While many people will be sad to see the peacocks go, we can all take comfort that they are moving to a bigger home where they will have plenty of room to spread their wings and roam freely.”

● **A SOUTHEND** college is hosting a number of drop-in sessions to mark National Apprenticeship Week.

Southend Adult Community College is offering the events as well as information and advice sessions between March 5 and 9.

The first session is from 3pm to 6.30pm on Monday, March 5 at Southchurch Centre, Ambleside Drive.

To find out more, call business development officer Caroline Fairman on 01702 445700 or email info@southend-adult.ac.uk.

● **THE YELLOW ADVERTISER** is holding a surgery for readers in Southend next week.

The event will be held at The Forum, in Elmer Square, from 2.30pm on Wednesday.

Reporter Michael Cox will be available to listen to any potential stories and answer readers' queries.

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www.facebook.com/YellowAdvertiser**NEWS**

Check on elderly as temperatures look set to plunge

THE elderly are being warned to wrap up warm as the "Beast from the East" brings freezing conditions to the UK with temperatures and conditions set to get progressively worse throughout the week.

Older people are particularly at risk during cold weather, which can cause falls, exacerbate existing health problems and even lead to hypothermia.

Here is some advice on how to help:

- Go and check on older neighbours or relatives to make sure they are safe and warm, especially at night.

- Make sure they have enough food and supplies so they do not need to go out when the weather is really bad.

- Ensure they have enough prescription medicines.

- Encourage them to wear shoes with a good grip and a scarf around their mouth to



ALERT: Cold weather increases the risk of exacerbating underlying health conditions

reduce their risk of chest infections if they do have to go out.

Older people are more at risk because their bodies often struggle to adjust to the temperature change.

Cold weather increases the risk of a heart attack or stroke as well as serious ill-

nesses such as flu or pneumonia.

Caroline Abrahams, director of Age UK, said: "The cold weather is challenging for many older people, particularly if they are coping with ill-health or living in housing that costs a lot to heat.

"We would also urge everyone to keep a friendly eye on older relatives, friends and neighbours, especially when the weather is very bad and it's difficult to get out.

"Offering to bring in some shopping, or just popping in for a chat and a cup of tea, can be a real help during the long winter months."

Icy conditions also put the elderly at higher risk of suffering a fall or developing hypothermia.

Isobel Sternfeld, of St John Ambulance, said: "It's rare, but at this time of year we sadly hear about cases of hypothermia.

"This is when the body temperature drops below 35C (95F) and is recognised by shivering, with pale, cold, dry skin and symptoms such as disorientation, apathy or irrational behaviour, impaired consciousness, slow and shallow breathing and a weakening pulse."

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Wed:	0342	5.70	1607	5.50

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Sun:	0219	6.70	1448	6.80
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Council tax set to rise by 4.49%

Band D home owner to pay £56.88 more a year

SOUTHEND councillors approved a council tax rise of almost four and a half per cent as part of the council's 2018/19 budget.

The 4.49 per cent hike was agreed at a full council meeting last Thursday.

One and a half per cent will go towards adult social care and the other 2.99 per cent will be for general use.

The rise will amount to a Band D resident paying £56.88 more annually.

Council leader John Lamb said: "Our central funding grant continues to fall significantly and will be minimal by 2020.

"In the meantime, the numbers of people needing our help and support continue to rise significantly.

"This means that we have to continually make some hard choices such as raising council tax by 4.49 per cent.

"I do not want to raise council tax, but continual and significant central Government cuts and the financial situation make any other scenario impossible."

Also confirmed in the budget was an extra £20million for projects in the borough up to March 2020, as well as £2.7m towards The Forum II, an expansion to the current building in Elmer Square.

Among the investment includes £10m towards commercial property, £3.7m on highways schemes, £1m set aside for fire improvement works and £875,000 to convert the former Beecroft Art Gallery.

Cllr Lamb added: "We must continue to fund essential things like secondary school places, invest in plans to look after our elderly and vulnerable, carry out important flood prevention works in the central seafront area, carry out fire improvement works where necessary and keep all our buildings up to the standard that people rightly expect.

"Wherever possible these projects will bring income into the council or they just must be done.

"Despite the austere times this gives us an impressive capital budget to make a difference to important local facilities and infrastructure and shows that we are open for business and here to do the very best for local people and businesses."

Air pollution targets must be met

From front page

"In Southend, the primary source of air pollution is road traffic and it is clear that any improvements in air quality will only happen if we all make less polluting travel choices, adopt greener transport and continue to take measures to prevent queuing traffic.

"Air quality, therefore, will be an important consideration if we look to make improvements to The Bell Junction in future."

A Government spokeswoman said: "The court

has asked us to go further in areas with less severe air quality problems.

"We had previously considered that it was sufficient to take a pragmatic, less formal approach to such areas.

"However, in view of the court's judgement, we are happy to take a more formal line with them.

"We have already delivered significant improvements in air quality since 2010 and we will continue to implement our £3.5 billion air quality plan."

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Photos by Martin Dalton



Bringing book characters to life



PUPILS at Hamstel Infant School, in Hamstel Road, Southend, dressed up as book characters last week. The children were joined by staff in dressing up on Friday to mark the end of a book week.

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Snow joke on seafront

Here are some more of photographer Martin Dalton's images in the snow from Southend seafront on Monday



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UKIP councillors create new party

A GROUP of Rochford councillors have defected from UKIP and formed their own party.

District councillors Neil Hookway, Tina Hughes, Daniel Efde and Nicholas Cooper are now part of the Friends of Rochford party.

Cllrs Hookway, Hughes and Efde represent the Foulness and the Wakerings ward, while Cllr Cooper is ward councillor for Roche North and Rural.

The group's leader, Cllr Hookway, told the *Yellow Advertiser* they wanted to focus on issues such as the council's bid to make a new Local Plan.

UKIP removed leader Henry Bolton just over a week ago. He was the party's fourth head in two years.

Cllr Hookway said: "There is an element that what is happening at national level was starting to interfere with what we were doing at local level."

"We want to focus on important local issues coming up and not have national politics interfering in that process."

The councillors' decision to leave UKIP comes after all of the party's Thurrock councillors defected to create their own group – Thurrock Independents – in late January.



FRIENDS UNITED: Rochford ex UKIP councillors. Neil Hookway, Tina Hughes and Nicholas Cooper

Cllr Hookway said they used the Thurrock model as "something to follow" when forming Friends of Rochford.

The breakaway group held a public event last Thursday on the council's 'issues and options' document, an initial stage in the preparation of a

Local Plan.

Council elections will be held in the district on May 3, and Cllr Hookway was bullish about the new party's prospects.

He said: "We would like to think we will make an impact at the local elections."

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SHOWTIME: South Essex College music students
Photo by Martin Dalton

College sets up buskers' corner

SOUTH Essex College students will get the chance to perform live each week with the introduction of a buskers' corner initiative.

The new scheme will see students play for ten-minute slots in the reception area at the Southend campus, in Luker Road.

A college spokesman said the scheme is aimed at its level two and three music performance students, but all students are welcome to perform.

Michael Webster, college music coordinator, told the *YA* that the buskers' corner performance area has been brought in

to give students experience of live performance.

He said often students start at the college with no live performance experience.

Michael said: "I think it does start with that very low level of just being able to play in a safe environment in our reception.

"It means that you can have the public coming in off the streets and students coming past and gives them the chance to try new material, show their talents and build a music based community."

The college hosts three gigs a year at venues including Chinnery's in Southend,

according to Michael, who has been at the college for three years. He said performing on stage is not an easy thing but the students seemed to be excited at the prospect of the initiative.

Michael added: "Once they see it in action, then they will start coming in their droves. It is pretty much like an open mic night."

The sessions run from noon to 2pm every Tuesday with students able to turn up with acoustic instruments and play in an allocated slot. Students can book a slot by emailing press@southessex.ac.uk.

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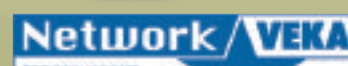
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Economy is at risk under a hard Brexit

KEITH Little (*YA Letters*, February 16) suggests the UK should elect for a hard Brexit and just leave the EU.

That sounds great as a soundbite but what does it mean in practice.

No doubt he will be screaming "Project Fear" at his copy of the *YA*, but this is what a no deal would mean for the UK.

Currently, the UK has a free trade agreement with the EU and also 759 bilateral agreements with other countries as an EU member on a range of issues from trade to flights.

All will be lost in a no deal Brexit. So here's a taste of what it means

Over half of the food we eat is imported and nearly 80 per cent of those imports come from the EU.

Imported food will, on average, be 22 per cent more expensive to cover the WTO tariffs imposed, these range from four per cent on wine to 40 per cent for Irish beef and cheddar

To fly on routes within the EU, an airline must have its HQ in a member state (which is why easyJet has moved its headquarters in Austria).

UK carriers will also fall out of aviation agreements with third countries such as the US, grounding services unless agreements can be struck quickly. Lorry drivers will not be able to have their UK qualifications recognised and will

need authorisation from the EU to work. British seafarers will also have the same problem working in EU waters.

The financial sector will not have passporting rights and will need to move to the EU. That puts one million jobs and £176 billion at risk.

Losing the European Medicines Agency, which is moving to Amsterdam after Brexit will mean the UK will need to create its own agency to retest those drugs before they can go on sale. Leaving The European Atomic Energy Community will put cancer treatments at risk.

I wonder if a bit of reality will make a hard Brexit less palatable.

**Paul Martin
Rayleigh**

The decision to leave EU is irreversible

EVERY week I look forward to receiving my brightly coloured *YA* with its well balanced news reports, entertainment, what's on section, sports and its various multitude of helpful adverts.

On June 23, 2016 – 17,410,742 voters made it their intention to leave and 16,141,241 wanted to stay which included the majority of Scottish and Northern Ireland voters voting to remain.

As you well know this decision is now irreversible, it's now history and our government is negotiating with Merkel's

German-led EU coalition to leave amicably with often very difficult obstacles being placed into its path by puppet Juncker and his merry men.

For many weeks the *YA* readers' letters has been awash with contributions from moaning leavers offering nothing constructive, but only doom and gloom scenarios.

It reminds me somewhat of the panic spread in the run-up to the beginning of the year 2000 – our millennium bug.

Do you remember when we were told by all the doom scare mongers that the end of the world was nigh, planes would fall out of the sky, alarm clocks would stop ticking, the world's computers would crash and we would have no marmalade for our toast?

January 1, 2000 was just a relatively normal day and life carried on as we know it.

There will not be a second vote and I can only surmise that many remainers pushing for this to happen most probably have vested interests in wanting to do so.

Ex-pats come to mind where there are well over a million in the EU, business owners with foreign European links and investors with monies tied up in foreign European banks.

Millions of pounds are being donated to the remainers' cause – some people just have money to throw away, surely monies that could be put to better use for instance Macmillan Cancer Support and Great Ormond Street Hospital spring to mind.

Everybody now should be sup-

porting our government, not undermining it in their efforts to get the best deal for our country.

Even our own opposition parties are making things difficult for their own political gain.

Other EU countries are watching very carefully and if Juncker continues to try and grind the UK down they will see the true face of their dictatorial doctrine.

They can't take a big player like the UK seeing the light and bailing out before it is too late and costing our country millions for various worthless causes.

Charity begins at home! Come the day of exit the UK will still trade with the EU it is in both sides' interests, people will still go to Spain for their hols, but most of all we will have our United Kingdom back again.

**Thomas Smith
Benfleet**

Lib Dems woeful on conservation

THE recent decision by Leigh's two Liberal councillors to support an application on Leigh Hill, part of the old town's conservation area, shows how they are prepared to ditch their principles and that they cannot be trusted

with the heritage of the area.

In a motion to Southend Council they talk about the importance of a new local plan, but are not prepared to abide by the existing one, instead attempting to overturn the advice of officers.

They were prepared to see the height of buildings increase next door to a Grade II listed building in breach of the National Planning Policy Framework and many other policies in direct contradiction to the Leigh Conservation Area Appraisal.

In January, Cllr Mulroney wrote in the press that the Liberals wanted to "continue to work within the current rules and policy framework".

Given their woeful performance in defending the conservation area, we can safely say that Leigh needs the Liberals like a fish needs a bicycle.

**Cllr Floyd Waterworth
Conservative
Blenheim Park**

Stop child abuse before damage done

IT is tragic that child abuse in Essex is on the increase, but good news that training and

support for police officers will be enhanced to help deal with it.

However, at a time when the social work profession has been named as among the top group of jobs for stress (Health and Safety Executive Report 2017) and local authority budgets are being stretched to the limit, including within child and family services, this aspect is not given sufficient recognition/increased funding.

For every additional new referral of potential abuse, social care, as the statutory authority for child protection, has to make staff and resources available to protect children. This comes at a cost both to staff involved and to the authority.

The partnership between police and social workers is good in Essex, but let's acknowledge the whole picture in any coverage.

Of course by the time the police and social services become involved the damage has often already been done so the real challenge is to prevent the abuse in the first place, putting resources into the community by way of schools, health, and early intervention services.

Only then might we stem this worrying increase.

**Zena Deayton
Leigh-on-Sea**

■ We welcome letters and e-mails on all subjects. Please keep them to fewer than 250 words and include your full name, address and daytime telephone number, wherever possible, for verification. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. Contributions may be edited for reasons of space. The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of this newspaper. Write to: Letters To The Editor, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH or e-mail us at: letters@yellowad.co.uk

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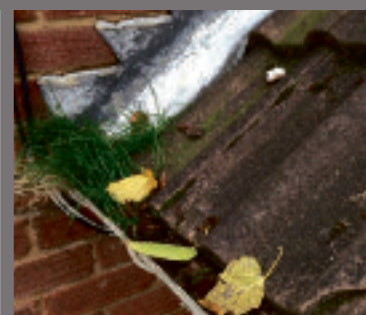
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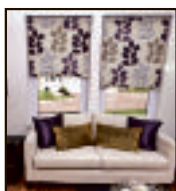
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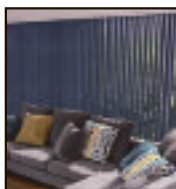
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Silk River scrolls marking Indian independence to go on display

AN EXHIBITION is set to display scrolls in Southend as part of a project to mark the 70th anniversary of Indian independence.

Twenty-two scrolls were designed and created for the Silk River project by artists based along the Thames Estuary and the River Hooghly in India.

The project explored the relationship between London and Kolkata through artistic exchange.

Each scroll depicts a perspective of a location along each river, with Southend's scroll showing images of the Endeavour and Chalkwell Hall among others.

The scrolls left Southend last September on board the paddle steamer Waverley to go to India. They have now returned and the free exhibition will run from March 2 to 31 at the



SHOW: The scrolls, pictured on Southend Pier before their departure last year, will be on display at the Beecroft Gallery, Southend

Beecroft Gallery.

It is being funded through money set aside for Southend's 125th anniversary celebrations

of becoming a borough.

Cllr Ann Holland, executive councillor for culture, tourism and the economy, said: "The

Silk River project has been a real journey of discovery for all those involved, educating us all on the importance of the relationship between London and Kolkata. In Southend, we hosted a large number of events to celebrate our 125th year as a borough, and to finish the year off with the finale of the Silk River project is something we are immensely proud of."

The gallery, in Victoria Avenue, is open on Tuesdays to Saturdays, between 10am and 5pm.

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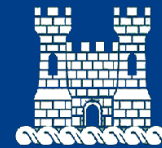

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LIFESTYLE

BOLTON WANDERER

By Lewis Berrill

features@yellowad.co.uk

EIGHTIES pop sensation Michael Bolton will be coming to Southend's Cliffs Pavilion on Tuesday, October 23. The Grammy Award winning artist is returning to the UK for the first time in over two years to perform his greatest hits and a selection of classic songs.

The multiple award-winning singer, songwriter and social activist, has sold more than 65million albums and singles worldwide, and continues to tour the world every year.

Bolton is still writing, recording and taping for a wide array of projects spanning music, film, television and branded entertainment.

He also remains committed to social causes, especially to his foundation The Michael Bolton Charities, now in its 25th year.

In 1993, Bolton established The Michael Bolton Foundation, later renamed The Michael Bolton Charities, to assist women and children at risk from the effects of poverty as well as emotional, physical and sexual abuse.

He also serves as the honorary chairman of Prevent Child Abuse America.

Bolton has received the Lewis Hine Award from the National Child Labor Committee, the Martin Luther King Award from the Congress of Racial Equality, and the Elis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations.

In recognition of his artistic achievements, Michael won two Grammys for Best Pop Male Vocal Performance, six American Music Awards, and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

He has had nine studio albums rank in the Top 10,

with nine number one singles.

His most recent album Songs of Cinema, a selection of iconic film soundtrack songs, was released alongside an original Netflix production, Michael Bolton's Big Sexy Valentine's Day Special, which ranked among the network's best comedies upon debut.

Michael is currently completing a feature documentary film, American Dream: Detroit, which pays homage to the city

and is set for release later this year.

His signature success was seized with the album Soul Provider, selling more than 12.5m copies worldwide, and showcasing several chart-toppers including the number one hit single How Am I Supposed to Live Without You, which earned Michael his first Grammy.

This pivotal album also includes the hit singles When I'm Back on My Feet Again, How Can We Be Lovers, Soul Provider, and of course the Grammy-nominated Georgia on My Mind.

Soon after, he released the number one album Time, Love & Tenderness, which has sold over 16m copies worldwide, and features his Grammy Award-winning vocal performance of the blockbuster hit When a Man Loves a Woman.

This album also produced the hit singles Love Is a Wonderful Thing, Time, Love and Tenderness and Missing You Now, as well as the Bob Dylan co-written Steel Bars.

■ Tickets for Michael Bolton's tour are on sale now via www.gigsandtours.com and www.ticketmaster.co.uk.

VIP Packages are also available at www.sjm-vip.co.uk.

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Sparrow takes flight

RED SPARROW (15, 140 mins)

DURING a moving exchange in Francis Lawrence's white-knuckle espionage thriller, a sickly mother embraces her daughter, who has been conscripted into an elite Russian spy programme under the auspices of patriotism. "Hold something back. Don't give them all of you. That's how you survive," tearfully whispers the matriarch.

Jennifer Lawrence gives all of herself – physically and emotionally – to the demanding title role of this high-stakes game of post-cold war cats and mice, torn from the pages of Jason Matthews's award-winning novel.

The Oscar-winner exposes every inch of her body in scenes of masterful seduction and sickening subjugation, including multiple sexual assaults and stomach-churning bouts of torture.

It's certainly not a film for the squeamish – the camera lingers on the aftermath of snapped bones and one sadistic sequence involving a skin grafting device is the stuff of nightmares.

Lawrence weathers these bone-crunching blows then shatters her character's soul to smithereens when she thinks no-one is looking, in the service of a tightly woven narrative, threaded with betrayal and daring double-crosses.

Crucially, it's predominantly women who decide grim fates, employing guile and intelligence to outwit men in suits and military uniforms who have grown fat and complacent on the illusion that they wield power.

Dominika Egorova (Lawrence) is a prima ballerina at the Bolshoi Theatre who pirouettes to finance the medical care of her mother (Joely Richardson).

The dancer suffers a horrendous injury on stage and three months later, as she hobbles through recovery, Dominika receives an unwelcome visit from her uncle Vanya (Matthias Schoenaerts), deputy director of the Russian Intelligence Service.

He press-gangs his niece into the top-secret Sparrow project, which moulds attractive recruits into weaponised assets to strike at the heart of Western governments.

Before Dominika can complete her training, she is despatched to Budapest to dupe seasoned CIA operative Nathaniel Nash (Joel Edgerton), the only person who knows the identity of a mole codenamed Marble within the Kremlin.

Nash is wise to the Russian plan and believes he can turn Dominika against her motherland.

Red Sparrow is a muscular and

engrossing thriller which revels in the tantalising disconnect between actions and words.

Plot mechanics are well-oiled thanks to Matthews's source material – the author was a clandestine operations officer for the CIA.

Consequently, screenwriter Justin Haythe concentrates on visualising mind games and daring power plays that leave us in the dark about characters' ulterior motives.

The film soars on the wings of Lawrence's fearless performance and the sterling support of Edgerton and Rampling, the latter irresistibly chilling as Matron of the Sparrow programme, who tutors charges in the art of sexual warfare.

"Every human being is a puzzle of need. You must become the missing piece and they will tell you anything," she purrs.

Unravelling the mysteries of Francis Lawrence's puzzle picture is a nail-biting treat.

Released: March 1
RATING: 8/10



Jennifer Lawrence
in Red Sparrow
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WHAT'S ON

To have your event considered for publication, send the details AT LEAST 10 DAYS before the issue date to: **What's On, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, SS14 1AH.** You can e-mail us at: **letters@yellowad.co.uk** PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee that all entries will be included.

However, you can add the details of your event to our website at **www.yellowad.co.uk**

Friday, March 2

- Coffee Morning – Chalkwell Park Methodist Church, corner of Eastwood Lane South and Kingsway, Westcliff, SS0 9XF. 10am to noon. In aid of church funds.
- Counselling Service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.
- Overeaters Anonymous Basildon Group – Nevenden Community Hall, St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Basildon, SS13 1BZ. 8pm, Colin, 07446 080054.
- George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, beginners tai chi: 10am to noon, darts: 5-4pm, marquetry: 10 to noon, art: 12.30-2.30pm. Snooker and bingo, £2, 01268 465854.
- Sequence Dancing – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 2.15-3.15pm. 01268 465854.
- Book Club – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 10-11am. 01268 465854.
- Drama Classes – Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.
- Table Tennis – Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over-50s, 11am-1pm, 07931 564105.

Saturday, March 3

- Saturday Club – for people with special needs, 9am to noon, games, music, arts, crafts. Ages 14 upwards, Frypa Hall, The Fryth, Basildon. 01268 415409.
- Counselling service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.
- Yugioh Club – play and trade yugioh, 120 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall, Wickford, SS11 8EB, mini-tournaments, 1.30-4.20pm. 07985 671289.

■ Saturday Morning Club – St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, 10am to noon, free entry, 01702 437863.

Sunday, March 4

- Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz Duo – Woodmans Arms, Rayleigh Road, Thundersley, 1pm. 01268 775799.
- Brush Strokes Art Group – Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh-on-Sea, 9.15am-12.15pm, 01277 627043.
- Exercise Class for stroke victims – St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, 2.30pm. 01702 612509.
- Sunday School – The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.
- Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation – Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30-11.30am, followed by conversation.
- King's Church, Southend – Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, 10.30am to noon, 01702 523639.
- Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourios and St Paul's, Salisbury Ave, Westcliff, 10am to noon. 01702 466435.
- Sunday Club – TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), 10.45-11.45am, details 01702 554904.
- Mojo Friendship Club – Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, 07757 658799.
- Hockley & District Horticultural Society trading hut – behind Hawkwell Village Hall, Main Road, Hawkwell, 10am to noon. Membership £3.

Monday, March 5

- Walking football sessions – Civic Hall, Grays, 6-7pm, £2 per session.
- Ron Spack's Jazztet – Ian Thompson, saxophone, Chris English, keyboard, Oakwood, Rayleigh Road, Eastwood, Southend, 8.30pm. Details 01702 512819.
- Bowls – FS&S Club, Gardeners Close, Basildon. All-weather green, free coaching, details call Chris 01268 419831.
- Green bowls – Mopsies Park, Vange, details 01268 558756.
- Coffee Morning and sale of goods – Christ Church, Wickford, 9am to noon.
- Club 50+ – 1B Queen's Road, Southend, 9.30am-3.30pm, daily, £2 day pass, details 01702 346863.
- Sunshine Coffee Morning – for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call 07880 035968, or just turn up.
- Dance Class – usually six-week course,

ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.

■ Leigh Scrabble Club – 7-10pm. Wesley Hall, Leigh Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Turn up or call 01268 727915.

■ Senior Citizens Club – Richmond Hall, Benfleet, 1.30-3.30pm.

■ Counselling Service – Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, enquiries@olivetreecentre.org.uk.

■ Over-50s Keep-fit Classes – Fryerns Community Centre, Pat 01268 770294.

■ Duplicate Bridge – Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opp Thames Drive), 1.15pm-4.30pm, call 01702 343611 or 01702 520993.

■ Duplicate Bridge – Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, 62 Southchurch Blvd, Southend, all standards, 2-4.45pm (no partner needed), 7.30-10.30pm, call Danny 07843 771774.

■ Weekly Craft Workshop – St Peter's Church Hall, Thundersley, 6-8pm, Michelle 07730 582784.

■ Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group – 8-10pm, Bowers and Pitsea Football Club, Crown Avenue, Pitsea. SS13 2BE. 07913 426371, join@basildonplayers.co.uk.

■ Zumba – Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am. 01268 465432.

■ Short Mat Bowls Club in Hadleigh – welcomes new members, Canvey Short Mat Bowls Club, call Kevin 01268 792433.

■ Short Mat Bowls, Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.

■ Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, Ray 01268 777665.

■ Indoor Bowls – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, Monday 2-4pm, 01268 465854.

■ Whist – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, 10am to noon, details 01268 465854.

■ Senior Citizens Club – Ghyllgrove Centre, Butneys, 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 293995.

■ Evening of clairvoyance – 57 Point Road, Canvey, SS8 7TT. 3pm, £3 all profits to charity. Tel: 07922 001433 or 01268 691922.

■ Development Healing Circle – Face Salon, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff, understanding of spiritual healing and prayer, 8-9.30pm, 07879 004744.

■ Fitness Walking – from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15-8.15pm, 01702 715509.

■ Scrabble Club – Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, no partner needed, 7-10pm, £3, call 01268 727915.

■ Hadleigh Castle Townswomen's Guild – Appliance Hall, Old Fire Station, High Street

SS7 2PA, 1.30-3.30pm. Visitors £2.50.

■ IT help sessions – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Details 01277 624624.

Tuesday, March 6

■ Computer help session – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Free. 01277 624624.

■ Painting class – The Studio, Glebelands Nursery, Hawkwell, Hockley, SS5 4JY, 10.30am-12.30pm. Details 01702 30717.

■ Yoga Class – Thorpedene Community Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness, 7-8.30pm, £6, bring a blanket and yoga mat, ages 16-plus. 07961 314983.

■ Social Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American and sequence, 8.30-10.30pm, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. 01702 546219/542349.

■ Craft Group – Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Rd, Leigh, 2.30-4pm. 01702 471873.

■ Social Dance – 1.45pm, St Cedd's Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, sequence, Latin, 01702 618771.

■ Evening of clairvoyance – St Cecilia's Christian Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15pm, £2.50.

■ Folk Music – The Hoy at Anchor Folk Club, Royal British Legion, 7/9 Northview Drive, Westcliff, 8pm. 01702 715111.

■ Singles Social Group – The Mews, Nelson Mews off Clarence Road car park, Southend, age 50-plus, 8pm. 07970 432994.

■ Singles Friendship Club for 50-plus – South Benfleet Social Club, 8.15pm, details Maureen 01268 692998.

■ Table Top Sale – Outpatients Foyer, Southend Hospital, 9.30am-3pm, Breathe Easy Southend, helping support people with lung problems. 01702 258661.

■ Pathfinders Blind and Partially Sighted Group – Fryerns Baptist Church, Whitmore Way, Basildon, SS14 2TJ, 9.30am-2pm.

■ Little Lunchers Activity Club – St Michael's Church, Rayleigh, 11.45am-1.15pm.

■ Top Cats Social Club (Southend Mencap) – Castle View School, Meppel Avenue, Canvey, 7-9.45pm, for adults with learning disabilities age 25-plus, £2 per session, details 01702 341250.

■ Table Tennis – 7.30-10.30pm, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, £3.60 per session.

■ Walking netball sessions – Civic Hall, Grays, 9-10am. £2 per session.

■ Bingo and Hoy – Wick Community Centre, Wickford, 1.30-4pm, details 01268 570575.

■ Vange Tots – Vange Community Centre, Vange Hill Drive, Vange, 9.30-11.30am, admission £1, snack and drinks provided for all. 01268 498642.

■ Scrabble Club – Hockley Social Centre (rear of library), 6.30-10pm, first two visits free, 01702 205910.

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Mother's Day

Origins of a tradition

WHILE many of us plan to spoil our mums on Sunday, March 11, with mouthwatering cuisine and special gifts, how many of us know the origins behind the tradition of showing our mothers how much we care? The day many of us refer to as Mother's Day, is not Mother's Day at all. It is officially Mothering Sunday – the mid Sunday in Lent, three weeks before Easter.

Mother's Day is an American tradition that began in the early 20th century and falls on the second Sunday in May.

Mothering Sunday has, over the years, become an occasion for honouring mothers and giving them presents, but back in the 16th century it was a time when people returned to their mother church for a service to be held on Laetare Sunday and anyone who did this was commonly said to have gone "a-mothering".

In later times, it was a date when domestic servants got the day off to visit their mother church with their families and their own mothers.

On their way they would pick wild flowers to place in their mother church or give to their mothers. Eventually, the religious tradition evolved into the Mothering Sunday secular tradition of giving gifts to mother.

As time passed the tradition tended to lapse, until Constance Penswick-Smith, daughter of a Nottinghamshire vicar, made it her mission to reinvigorate the Christian holiday of Mothering Sunday.

In 1914 she was inspired by the efforts of American Anna Jarvis, who had campaigned to make Mother's Day a recognised holiday.

Anna's campaign in the USA began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, a peace activist who cared for wounded sol-



diers on both sides of the Civil War, died.

She had held a memorial for her mother at St Andrew's Methodist Church in West Virginia – which now holds the International Mother's Day Shrine – and by 1911 all US states were observing the holiday. Inspired by Anna, Constance published a book entitled The Revival of Mothering Sunday, and created the Mothering Sunday Movement.

Thanks mainly to Constance's efforts of spending more than 25 years promoting the celebration of the festival, Mothering Sunday has been widely observed and re-established across the Church of England and in wider society.



Mothering Sunday Lunch with Joe Gibson

For more information and to book, visit:
www.southendtheatres.org.uk or call 01702-351135

SOUTHEND CLIFFS PAVILION

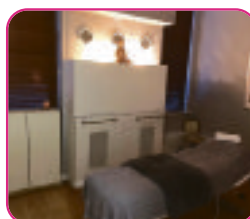
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Mother's Day

Let your mum know how much she's loved

MOTHER'S Day is just around the corner so it's time to start thinking of the best way to say thank you to the very special person in our lives.

If you are struggling for ideas, don't panic! We have put together a list of places to solve your Mother's Day dilemmas, so take a look at the advertisers in our feature and decide which way is the best way to spoil your mum this Mother's Day.

Mother's Day, or Mothering Sunday, is a day to honour mothers and mother figures, such as grandmothers, stepmothers and mother-in-laws.

Many people make a special effort to visit their mother. They take cards and gifts to her and may treat her to brunch, lunch or high tea in a cafe, restaurant or hotel. People who cannot visit their mother usually send gifts or cards to her.

Some people also choose to treat their mother or grandmother to a special meal, beauty treatment or fun outing, but you can't go wrong with a bouquet of



gorgeous flowers, so here's a guide to the meaning of each flower as well as a colour guide to help combine your message of love.

● Roses - Love or passion
● Carnations - A mother's love

● Lilies - Purity & beauty
● Daisies - Loyal love
● Calla Lilies - Magnificence and beauty

● Iris - Eloquence and wisdom

● Pink - Innocence, unconditional love, thoughtfulness and gentleness

● Red - Deep love and passion

● White - Purity, truth and perfection

● Yellow - Trust, compassion and respect

● Purple - Grace and elegance

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Website: www.simplyseafood.co.uk

Sunday 11th March



The real taste of Italy

VISIT Il Palazzo and enjoy the genuine taste of Italy in Westcliff and Southchurch.

Throughout the year you can enjoy all their favourite Italian dishes at Il Palazzo, including a wide range of pizzas, pastas, risottos and meat and fish dishes, that take inspiration from almost every part of Italy.

Diners at the Westcliff restaurant can order from its Lunch Menu throughout the week, which includes any pizza or pasta dish for £5.95 or two courses for £9.95.

Evening diners at both the Westcliff and Southchurch restaurants can enjoy a two course meal with a choice



of starter and main course for just £12.95, between Sunday and Thursday.

On Sunday diners can also enjoy the Il Palazzo Sunday roast, served with all the trimmings for just £9.95 on its own or as part of the Sunday Set Menu, available from 11.30am to 5pm. The Sunday Set Menu (available every Sunday except Valentine's Day), costs just £18.95 and includes a mini pizza ball per person with balsamic and extra Virgin olive oil, as well as a choice of starters, main courses and desserts, followed by tea or coffee.

Italian hospitality is second to none and Il Palazzo has proven to be a popular location for celebrations of every kind. Il Palazzo is the perfect venue for everything from birthday and anniversaries, to staff parties and awards ceremonies.

Il Palazzo Westcliff has proved popular with theatre enthusiasts as its location opposite the Palace Theatre makes it the perfect place to enjoy a pre-show meal.

Il Palazzo Southchurch, which has proved popular since replacing The Lemon Tree, offering fantastic surroundings and similar outstanding food, is open from 4pm during the week and from 11am on Saturday and Sunday, is located at 513 Southchurch Road, Southend. Call 01702 467 793 for reservations.

Il Palazzo Westcliff, open daily from 11am, is located at 1 West Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, opposite Palace Theatre. Call 01702 341 888 for reservations.

Please be aware when booking that you are choosing the correct location.

For further information visit www.ilpalazzo.co.uk.



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Mother's Day Bookings Now Being Taken

**Special 3 Course Menu
£34.95 each**

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Please see website for set menus and opening times.

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"Romantic setting"



Lovely restaurant with very freindly, efficient and professional staff, Enjoyed the ambience of the restaurant and the food was cooked very well



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Mother's Day - Sunday 11th March



Get lost in the meze of the Akropolis



Enjoy some of the finest Italian & Continental dishes in town, in our air-conditioned fully licensed restaurant.

Open Monday to Saturday 5pm till late

Extensive A La Carte Menu available

Monday to Saturday Evenings.

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Duo Menu - Main Course plus Dessert - available Monday to Friday Evenings - £11.95

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www.spaghettijunctionrestaurant.co.uk

MANY GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS

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Specials

In addition to our menus we offer a good choice of starters & main courses from the "Chef's Specials" board available Monday to Saturday.

A wide selection of fresh fish is also one of our specialities.

Take Away Service

We offer a take away service for any dish on our A La Carte Menu.

Parties

Parties catered for up to 30 people.

ONE of the area's most popular Greek restaurants has attracted a growing band of fans since opening more than 10 years ago.

With 25 main dishes, 28 starters, two set meals, and a variety of desserts on the menu, there is always something new to try at the Akropolis in Westcliff.

For those with a large appetite, Akropolis serves a Greek Meze menu every day for £21.95 per person.

The menu, which introduces diners to the Cypriot way of eating, starts with tasty dips and pitta bread, and is followed by cold starters and fish dishes,

Cypriot wine sausages, smoked loin of pork and grilled goat's milk cheese.

Then it's on to the meats, and kleffico and stifado for those looking for more. To finish there are Greek pastries and fresh fruits.

The Akropolis Meze, available for two or more people, is ideal for parties.

The Kleffico Feast, includes traditional dips and pitta bread, kleffico, pastries and a platter of fresh fruits, for £19.95 per person.

The mouth-watering food is not the only Akropolis attraction, the restaurant also produces a good line in live music on most days of the week.

The restaurant, which can seat up to 60 people, has a

fully licensed bar that can cater for everything from a quiet meal for two to birthday celebrations.

With its experienced chefs and friendly, helpful staff, Akropolis offers a top quality, value-for-money evening out.

Akropolis, which can satisfy dietary needs and offers child-friendly dishes, is open from 5pm to midnight from Monday to Thursday, 5pm to 1am on Friday and Saturday, and from noon to midnight on Sunday.

It is at 120 Station Road, Westcliff with parking available near the Cliffs Pavilion.

To book call 01702 437963 or visit www.akropolis.co.uk.

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Property



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Upstairs is the master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms, a wet room, and a family bathroom with a wall-mounted shower.

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This really is a rare opportunity to purchase a substantial property.

£530,000

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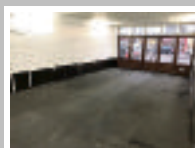
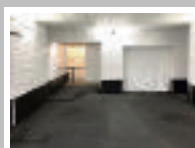
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London Road, Leigh-on-Sea

RENT - £750 PCM

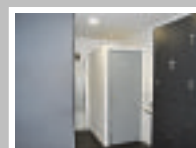
The premises are located on the North side of London Road, Leigh (A13), a short distance from its junction with Highlands Boulevard. The premises are currently being used as a car showroom and another car user would be considered. However planning permission has been submitted for the installation of a new shop front and a retail use, thus the premises would suit a variety of retail uses. May also suit an office user. The shop has a newly fitted kitchen and w.c.



Eastern Esplanade, Southend-on-Sea

RENT - £2,500 PCM

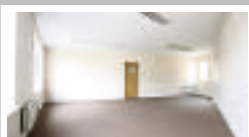
The premises comprises a double fronted two storey commercial building which has most recently been used as a gym but may suit other similar commercial uses. The property has been fitted out by the previous tenant and benefits from working areas on the ground and first floors.



Sutton Road, Southend-on-Sea

RENT - £16,000 PAX

Hair & Son are offering to let this detached office building on a substantial corner of Sutton Road and next to the Greyhound Business Park which includes traders such as Matalan, Farm Foods, KFC and Iceland. The property includes a number of single offices, boardroom and male and female W/Cs. Rail links to London via Fenchurch Street.



High Street, Rayleigh

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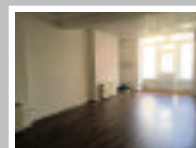
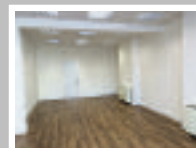
The premises comprise a first floor office located in the centre of Rayleigh High Street above Bet Fred. The accommodation is approached via an access door to the side of the premises (shared with the 2nd floor occupiers). The open plan space has been partitioned a good sized open plan area with some smaller offices. The suite is newly decorated and carpeted and benefits from Category II style lighting, gas fired central heating (not tested).



Weston Chambers, Southend-on-Sea

RENT - £6,250 PAX

The premises comprise a recently refurbished ground floor office fronting Weston Chambers. The office has its own front door directly off Weston Road. The suite was refurbished about 6 months ago and has new electric heating, a wood effect floor, category II style lighting and a newly replaced internal w.c.



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Vacant Freehold 3 bedroom mid terrace house in need of complete refurbishment. 2 reception rooms and a 70ft approx. rear garden

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 Vacant Leasehold 2 bedroom ground floor flat in Hildaville Drive, Westcliff - Guide Price £135,000

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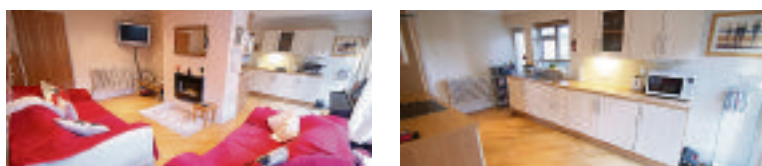
AUCTION


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RAYLEIGH £450,000

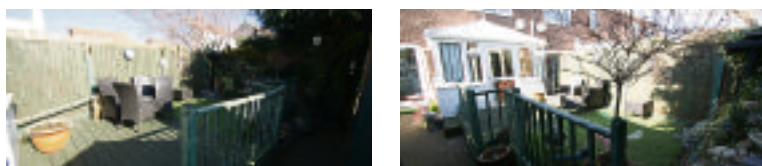
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EASTWOOD £370,000

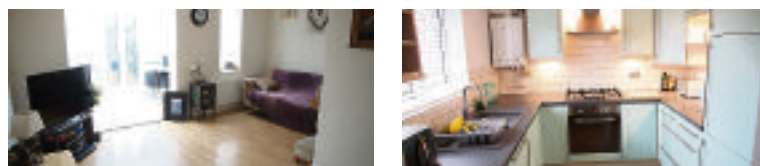
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- Spacious Lounge
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- Must Be Viewed Internally



RAYLEIGH £300,000

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- Spacious Lounge
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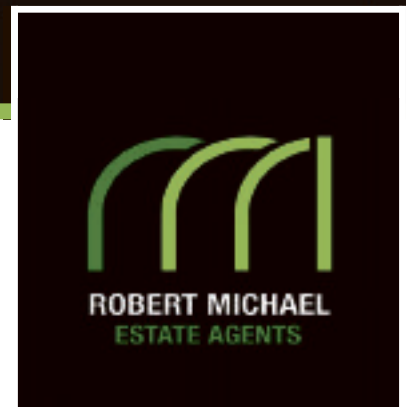
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83 Hart Road | Thundersley | Benfleet | Essex S57 3PB

**HADLEIGH £299,995**

Deceptive semi detached cottage in need of some updating. The property offers 3 bedrooms, 3 receptions, bathroom with separate wc, ground floor cloakroom, double glazing, gas heating (n/t), off street parking & 125ft rear garden. Ideally location with easy access of local amenities and bus routes.

**THUNDERSLEY
£350,000**

Located in a quiet cul-de-sac position within The King John School catchment area this extended semi detached chalet offers 3 good size bedrooms, study/ 4th bedroom, lounge, separate dining room, L-shaped kitchen/breakfast room, modern fitted shower room double glazing and off street parking.

**THUNDERSLEY
£494,500**

Situated in popular cul-de-sac this detached house offers 4 good size bedrooms with en-suite to master, 25'9 lounge, 12'5 conservatory, fitted kitchen/breakfast room with appliances, utility area, modern bathroom suite and ground floor cloakroom. The property is double glazed & has gas heating (n/t)

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Terms and Conditions apply

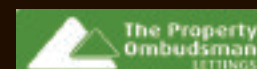
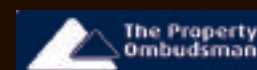


If you have instructed another agent on a sole agency basis, the terms of those instructions must be considered before contacting us, to avoid the possibility of paying two commissions.

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CUMBERLAND AVE £325,000 GUIDE PRICE

SOUTHEND

Three double bedroom detached home. Modern bathroom with separate shower. Modern kitchen with fitted Bosch dishwasher and double oven and hob. Feature multi-fuel fireplace. Situated 1 mile from Southend East train station, providing easy access into London via the Fenchurch Street line and is 1.5 miles from Prittlewell train station on the Liverpool Street line. Good school catchments. With the added bonus of being offered with no onward chain and off street parking.



OBAN RD £250,000-£269,995

SOUTHEND OPEN HOUSE

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 3RD MARCH 11AM TO MIDDAY!!!! Refurbished modern two double bedroom family home. With its great use of space and great open family/dining room, modern fitted kitchen, bathroom with modern tiling and fully tiled double separate double shower with a rain shower. With a lovely west facing garden and no onward chain this is a property that must be viewed. Situated in a convenient location with local shops nearby and the Southend Town centre still being within walking distance. The Southend East Mainline station is within 0.4 miles making it an easy commute to central London in only 50 mins via the c2c line.



THE DOME VILLAGE £100,000

HOCKLEY

NO ONWARD CHAIN!! We have this wonderful one bedroom park home which the current vendor has had new cladding with extra insulation, new roof and stilts. The property itself has nice lounge, kitchen, and modern walk in wet room, double bedroom and a recently fitted new boiler. The Dome Village is a family run park set on the outskirts of Hockley. It boasts from a number of amenities such as a doctors surgery, postbox, restaurant, guesthouse and caravan storage area.



LONDON RD £64,995

WESTCLIFF RESTAURANT & FLAT

Well established Indian restaurant & Takeaway with a flat above. It is fully licensed with 50 covers and the added benefit of busy takeaway service. There is ladies, gents toilets, staff room toilet which could be used as a disabled toilet. The Kitchen is fully equipped and is being offered as seen. There are no business rates as currently it benefits from small business relief. Upstairs there are two double bedrooms, one single, kitchen & shower Room and has own access. Rent £12,600

CALL TODAY

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stuart thomas

the property people

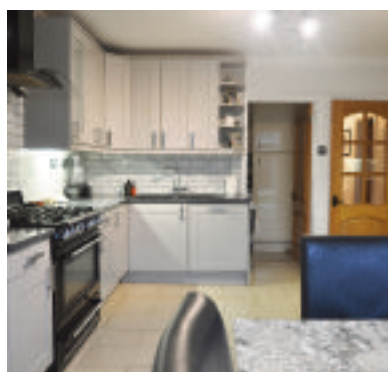
Celebrating 10 years!



**NEW
INSTRUCTION!**

THUNDERSLEY £595,000 GUIDE PRICE

- DETACHED FAMILY HOME
- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- ADDITIONAL SITTING ROOM
- TASTEFULLY DECORATED THROUGHOUT
- POPULAR CHASE DEVELOPMENT
- STUNNING CONSERVATORY



A STRESS FREE DAY



I have moved 4 times and each move was a highly stressful experience. With all kinds of things going wrong so I was delighted when this move with Stuart Thomas went like a well oiled machine. What problems that did crop up were easily dealt with by Stuart and his staff. I can't praise them enough, well done all of you.

FAB CUSTOMER SERVICE



We signed up with Stuart Thomas and they sold our property within in a week! The staff are always contactable if we had queries and very helpful when we were looking for a property ourselves too. If we move again we know who we'd ask for help!

AMAZING!



They are really amazing estate agents. 4 viewings in 24 hours, 2 offers and sold. Really pushed the sale through for us, start to finish will be 1 month! Nothing was too much trouble for them, always happy to help and the whole team so friendly. Would recommend to anyone!

THE BEST AGENT WE HAVE EVER USED



We cannot thank Stuart and his team enough for all their help with our recent house move. They kept us up to date on how things were progressing and any problems were quickly resolved. We would certainly recommend them to our family and friends and would have no hesitation in using them again for any future property moves.



**NEW
PRICE!**

HADLEIGH £395,000 GUIDE PRICE

- DETACHED CHARACTER PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- HADLEIGH LEIGH BORDERS
- STUNNING OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/DINER
- CONSERVATORY
- DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM





stuart thomas

the property people

Celebrating 10 years!



BENFLEET £475,000

- EXTENDED FAMILY HOME
- VERY SPACIOUS
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- GOOD SIZE GARDEN
- TWO BATHROOMS
- WALKING DISTANCE OF LOCAL SCHOOL
- SO MUCH SPACE!



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BENFLEET £320,000

- DETACHED TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW
- AMPLE OFF-STREET PARKING
- LARGE REAR GARDEN
- WELL FITTED KITCHEN
- SHORT WALK OF LOCAL SCHOOLS
- SHORT WALK OF LOCAL SHOPS
- NO ONWARD CHAIN





**MANOR ROAD,
BENFLEET** **£385,000**

Three Bedroom Semi-Detached. Refurbished And Modernised Throughout. 100ft+ Rear Garden. Redecorated Throughout. New Fitted Kitchen. Energy Band E.
CALL 01268 565555



**BRECON CLOSE,
BASILDON** **£240,000**

Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow. South Facing Garden. Modern Decor. Double Glazed. Popular Area. Plumbing Established For Downstairs WC. Energy Band E.
CALL 01268 565555



**BOULDREWOOD
ROAD, BENFLEET** **£380,000**

Three Bed Detached Bungalow. Refurbished Throughout. Gas To Radiator Heating. Conservatory. Corner Plot. Show Home Condition. Solid Wood Flooring. Energy Band D.
CALL 01268 565555



**SOUTHWOLD,
BENFLEET** **£360,000**

Popular Location. 1930's Character Property. Vast Living Room. Modern Decor. West Facing Low Maintenance Garden. Appleton School Catchment. Energy Band D.
CALL 01268 565555

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SOUTHCEND CENTRE £465,000

VERY LARGE VICTORIAN PERIOD PROPERTY WITH ORIGINAL FEATURES - MUST SEE!

- * 2 BATHROOMS – ONE ON THE GROUND FLOOR
- * 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
- * AMPLE OFF STREET PARKING
- * NO ONWARD CHAIN
- * 5 BEDROOMS

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LEIGH BROAD WEST £249,995

LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT WITH STUNNING ESTUARY VIEWS!!

- * ALLOCATED PARKING
- * 2 BEDROOMS
- * SHARE OF FREEHOLD
- * MODERN STYLE FITTED KITCHEN
- * VACANT POSSESSION

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WESTCLIFF ON SEA £134,995

FOR THE OVER 60'S

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| * NEWLY EXTENDED LEASE TO 134 YEARS | * HOUSE MANAGERS |
| * RECENTLY DECORATED APARTMENT | * RESIDENTS MEETING LOUNGE & GYM |
| * 1 DOUBLE BEDROOM | * WELL WORTH A VIEW! |



WESTCLIFF ON SEA £1250 PCM

AVAILABLE NOW This character 4 bedroom semi detached house. 2 Receptions. Parking. St London Rd. Stroll C2c station. Working tenants only. Consider small pet.



WESTCLIFF/ LEIGH BORDERS £750 PCM

AVAILABLE NOW. Newly decorated & carpeted 2 bedroom ground floor flat. Stroll of park & Stroll of station. Kitchen with built in cooker & fridge/ freezer. Working tenants only. No pets.



CHALKWELL PARK £850 PCM

WITH VIEWS OVER THE PARK! View & reserve today – Available 31st March. Large 2 bedroom 1st floor flat. Spacious lounge with super views. Large Kitchen with built in cooker & fridge. Gas c/h. Fully double glazed. Working tenants only & sorry no dogs.



WESTCLIFF ON SEA £625 PCM

AVAILABLE NOW. Clean & tidy 1 double bedroom 1st floor flat. Good sized lounge. Bath/ wc. Gas c/h & fully double glazed. OFF STREET PARKING. Consider cat – sorry no dogs.

LANDLORDS: WE HAVE A STRONG DEMAND FOR HOUSES AND FLATS FROM REGISTERED TENANTS IN AREAS COVERED BY THIS PAPER – CALL 01702 719191 TO LET YOURS!

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THE MARKET STRIKES BACK!

February was our best Sales Month for over a year. If you are thinking of selling, come to the proven leaders in the field – Share in our Success!

MORE PROPERTIES REQUIRED NOW!
Great deals, Great Service

£560,000

- 5 bedroom
- 2 reception
- Double garage
- Conservatory
- No onward chain
- Ref:3736, EPC:D

HOCKLEY

Sought after Mews location backing South



£275,000

SOUTHEND

Unique greatly improved bungalow

- Driveway and parking
- 2 beds, 2 receptions
- South backing garden
- Great potential
- EPC = D
- REF: EBE3763



£248,000

SHOEBURYNESSE

Quiet location close to ASDA centre

- Two double beds
- Semi detached
- Parking for 2 cars
- Double glazing
- No onward chain
- Ref: 3750, EPC: D



£400,000

WICK DEVELOPMENT

Detached bungalow with potential

- FAVOURED AREA
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTIONS
- BACKING SOUTH
- EPC= TBA
- REF: EBE3755



£165,000

SOUTHCHURCH VILLAGE

Modern 2nd floor apartment with rooftop terrace

- 1 bedroom
- Off Street Parking
- Double glazing
- Close to C2C line
- Close to town
- Ref:3744, EPC: B



£275,000

SOUTHEND

Large family house with HMO use

- Central Southend
- Close stations etc
- Large rooms
- No onward chain
- EPC = E
- Ref: ebe3757



£280,000

SOUTHEND

Three storey family house

- OFF ROAD PARKING
- LARGE LOFT ROOM
- EN SUITE WASHROOM
- POPULAR AREA
- EPC = D
- REF: EBE3751



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HADLEIGH £399,995

Three bedroom family house in sought after location walking distance of the King John School, Hadleigh Castle and Country Park and Hadleigh Town Centre, 80' approx garden with 12'3 x 9'1 summerhouse, off street parking, large luxury fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, superb conservatory / 2nd lounge, luxury bathroom with spa bath.



2 BED FLAT, MARINE ESTATE, LEIGH £265,000

TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM ground floor flat backing on to the Marine Estate, walking distance of Leigh Station. This stylish flat offers TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS, luxury bathroom, fitted kitchen and a spacious lounge with direct access out to a patio and the communal gardens. Ref etl5653



WESTCLIFF £525,000

NO ONWARD CHAIN - KEYS AVAILABLE TO VIEW - OFFERS INVITED FOR QUICK SALE - four bedroom detached house in a sought after location. Large L' shape rear garden, garage, en suite to master bedroom, study, elegant lounge, separate dining room, spacious fitted kitchen, utility room, bathroom/w.c. etl5594



HIGHLANDS, LEIGH £450,000

Semi-detached house, situated in a sought after location on the Highlands Estate within the Westleigh Schools catchment area, walking distance of shops and Leigh station. 3 double bedrooms, spacious lounge, separate dining room, superb open plan 21' x 13'6 kitchen and breakfast room, utility room, cloaks/w.c., 65' garden, off street parking. Ref etl5610



MARINE ESTATE, LEIGH £499,995

Semi detached house requiring modernisation and priced accordingly in a highly sought after location within the Westleigh Schools C/A and walking distance of Leigh Station, detached garage and parking for two cars, three bedrooms, ESTUARY VIEW from bedroom one and three, large lounge, separate 2nd lounge/ dining room, 18' kitchen. etl5657



4 BEDROOM HOUSE, LEIGH-ON-SEA £449,995

Superb FOUR bedroom family home situated in a desirable location close to Bonchurch Park and Belfairs Woods, off street parking and a West facing rear garden. Early viewing advised. Excellent condition throughout, large lounge, superb open plan kitchen and dining room, conservatory, off street parking, good size WEST FACING REAR GARDEN. Ref etl5650



1 & 2 BEDROOM FLATS IN MONTAGUE COURT £P.O.A.

CHOICE OF ONE & TWO BEDROOM FLATS IN LUXURY FLATS FOR THE OVER 60'S, MONTAGUE COURT, PERFECT FOR LOCAL SHOPS, STATION AND SEAFRONT - EARLY ENQUIRIES ADVISED ONLY 2 UNITS AVAILABLE WITH TOWN & COUNTRY.



4 BED HOUSE CLOSE TO BROADWAY & CHALKWELL STATION £485,000

FAST SALE REQUIRED Large semi detached four bedroom family house in great location just off Leigh Road, walking distance of Chalkwell Station and Leigh Broadway. WEST FACING GARDEN. large lounge, separate dining room, fitted kitchen, cloaks/w.c., bathroom/ w.c. etl5656



PROBATE SALE-3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW, EASTWOOD £329,995 OFFERS INVITED

Three bedroom semi detached bungalow situated in a sought after elevated location by the entrance to Edwards Hall Park. The property requires modernisation and keys are available for viewing. 55' approx WEST FACING GARDEN, detached garage, parking for 4 cars. Lots of scope for improvement and extension. Ref etl5655



GREAT WAKERING £262,500

Delightful 2 bedroom semi-detached cottage style house with large front garden and PARKING FOR 6 CARS. The property is situated close to the Village shops and local schools. Two good size bedrooms, bedroom one 13'6 x 11', bedroom two 10'3 x 9'5, 13' x 9'6 kitchen, attractive lounge with feature fireplace, cloaks/w.c., gas c/h, luxury bathroom Ref etl5658



3 DOUBLE BEDROOM FLAT, LEIGH £295,000

3 double bedroom first and second floor maisonette, close to local shops, within the Westleigh school catchment area and walking distance of Leigh station. 20' x 14' 8 lounge, 21' x 10' kitchen / diner, bathroom / w.c. d/glazing, gas c/h, own garden and potential off street parking space.



LARGE LUXURY RETIREMENT FLAT, CHALKWELL £349,995

Very large two bedroom GROUND FLOOR apartment close to Chalkwell park & Station, two bedrooms, superb lounge, large balcony with estuary view, fitted kitchen, exceptional communal facilities, gardens and residents secure parking. QUICK SALE POSSIBLE. Ref 5661



2 BEDROOM FLAT IN LEIGH £210,000

Superb two bedroom flat for the over 60' situated in an exceptional development with first class communal facilities including lovely gardens, communal lounge, laundry room, on site manager, residents car park etc. NO ONWARD CHAIN - EARLY VIEWING ADVISED



GRADE 2 LISTED COTTAGE £315,000

A charming Grade II listed character cottage situated in the village of Great Wakering. Delightful courtyard garden with gated parking area, lounge with feature fireplace, dining room also with fireplace, kitchen, bathroom/w.c. two bedrooms and useful attic room Ref etl 5540



DETACHED HOUSE, GREAT WAKERING £365,000

Detached house situated with a pretty walled rear garden backing onto paddocks and open fields. The village shops, amenities and school are just a short walk away. 3 good size bedrooms, cloaks w.c., 24' x 14'6 lounge, separate dining room/ conservatory, spacious kitchen, gas c/h and d/glazing, NO ONWARD CHAIN Ref etl5651



2 BEDROOM FLAT CLOSE TO CHALKWELL STATION & BROADWAY £259,995

NO ONWARD CHAIN Spacious ground floor flat with OWN REAR GARDEN situated off of Leigh Road, ideal for the shops at LEIGH BROADWAY and LEIGH ROAD, walking distance of CHALKWELL STATION, Two bedrooms, lounge, good size fitted kitchen, double glazing, gas central heating, early viewing advised Ref etl5616



PROBATE SALE, HIGHLANDS, LEIGH £465,000

A four bedroom semi detached house with detached garage situated in a sought after location within the Westleigh Schools Catchment area and walking distance of Leigh Station. Good size south backing garden. Large lounge and separate dining room, ground floor w.c., spacious kitchen. The property requires MODERNISATION. Ref etl5646



PRICED FOR QUICK SALE ! WESTCLIFF £375,000

Three bedroom detached bungalow with Detached garage/ outbuilding, in and out driveway, large lounge, new bathroom, new kitchen, attractive garden, gas central heating and double glazing, sought after location off Prittlewell Chase, convenient for Southend Hospital, schools, including the high schools and Southend Airport.



VICTORIAN COTTAGE, WESTCLIFF £265,000 OIEO

Probate sale - Charming late Victorian semi detached cottage walking distance of Chalkwell Park, Station, schools and shops. Pretty west facing garden, lounge & separate dining room, kitchen & conservatory, 2 double bedrooms, lovely Victorian bathroom Ref etl5652



LARGE VICTORIAN HOUSE WITH VIEWS OF SOUTHEND PIER AND ESTUARY £379,995

Beautifully refurbished late Victorian villa situated in the heart of Southend on Sea, within walking distance of the beach, town centre and Stations. Open Plan Lounge and Dining Room 26'0 x 11'8, large new luxury kitchen / breakfast room, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS. ETL5622

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Lynton Gate, HADLEIGH

Guide Price £525,000 - £550,000



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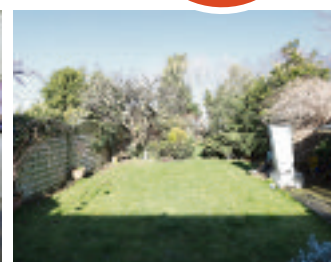
Newly Formed Gated Development In This Private Road Adjacent To The Prestigious Benfleet Road And Ideally Located For Hadleigh Country Park, Hadleigh Castle And Olympic Cycle Track \ Reception Hall \ Lounge/Kitchen/Diner 27' x 20'5 \ Ground Floor W.c \ Ground Floor Bedroom One 16'5 Max Into Wardrobe x 12'6 With En-Suite Shower Room \ First Floor Bedroom Two 15'11 Max x 13'4 \ Study/First Floor Bedroom Three 13'3 x 9'8 L' Shaped Maximum Measurements \ Bathroom 9'5 Max x 7'7 Max \ Delightful Rear Garden With Open Aspect To The South \ Off Street Parking \ Karndean Flooring To The Ground Floor Reception Area \ Isolated Sprinkler System \ Satellite And Freeview Television Connectivity \ Luxury Kitchen With Quartz Worktops, Bosch Ovens And Integrated Dishwasher And Fridge Freezer \ King John School Catchment \ Sole Agents \ Viewings Advised \ Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosstates.com

Daws Heath Road, HADLEIGH

Offers in Excess Of £485,000



LARGE GARDEN
WITH
NORWEGIAN
CABIN



A Deceptively Large Character Home Set Well Back From The Road With Many Fine Features Throughout In This Highly Regarded Location \ Lounge 23'8 x 10'7 \ Sitting Room 14' x 11'5 \ Kitchen/Diner 23' x 11'9 \ Utility Room 11'3 x 9'3 \ Ground Floor Bedroom/Study 11'10 x 7'11 \ Ground Floor W.C \ Bedroom One 13' x 9'5 With En-Suite Bathroom \ Bedroom Two 10'11 x 7'9 \ Bedroom Three 9'5 x 7'1 \ Attractive 85ft Rear Garden \ Garage 24'9 x 9'3 \ Popular & Sought After Location \ Close To Local Amenities \ Easy Access Of Hadleigh Town Centre And Major Trunk Roads \ Close To Local Woodland \ EPC - E \ Call 01702 555888 or live chat at amosstates.com

THUNDERSLEY / **£375,000**
**KING JOHN
CATCHMENT**


A Freshly Decorated Excellent Family Home In This Quiet Cul-De-Sac Within King John Catchment Area \ Lounge/Diner 24'5 x 10'6 \ Conservatory 13'3 x 9'2 \ Kitchen 12'11 x 8'9 \ Bedroom One 13' x 10'6 \ Bedroom Two 10'11 x 10'6 \ Bedroom Three 8'7 x 7'7 \ Bathroom \ Rear Garden 50' x 40' \ Garage 15'9 x 8'2 \ Off Street Parking \ King John School Catchment \ Easy Access of Hadleigh Town Centre \ Close to A13 and A127 Trunk Roads \ Well Presented Family Home \ Viewings Essential \ EPC - D \ **Call 01702 555888** or **live chat at amosestates.com**

HADLEIGH / **£230,000**
**GROUND
FLOOR**


Extremely Well Presented Two Bedroom Ground Floor Flat Situated In This Popular Block \ Lounge/ Kitchen 21'4 x 10'6 \ Bedroom One 14'7 x 10'7 With En-Suite Shower Room \ Bedroom Two 10'5 x 7'11 \ Bathroom \ Newly Fitted Carpet \ Well Decorated Throughout \ Allocated Parking \ Rare Opportunity \ UPVC Double Glazing With Attractive Made To Measure Blinds \ Convenient Location Within Walking Distance Of Hadleigh Town Centre & Hadleigh Castle \ Secured On A Long Lease \ Viewings Advised \ EPC - C \ **Call 01702 555888** or **live chat at amosestates.com**

THUNDERSLEY / **Guide £300,000 - £310,000**
**130FT
GARDEN**


A Charming Very Well Presented Semi-Detached Cottage Retaining Much Character And Many Fine Features Throughout \ Lounge/Diner 20' x 10'8 \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 11'11 x 10'6 \ Inner Hall/Utility Space 9'1 x 9'1 \ Bathroom \ Bedroom One 11'1 x 10' \ Bedroom Two 12' x 10' \ 130ft West Backing Rear Garden \ Off Street Parking For Two Vehicles \ Extended To The Ground Floor \ Convenient Location \ Easy Access Of A127 And A13 Trunk Roads \ Viewings Essential \ EPC - D \ **Call 01702 555888** or **live chat at amosestates.com**

Lynton Gate, HADLEIGH / **£499,995**
**KING JOHN
CATCHMENT**

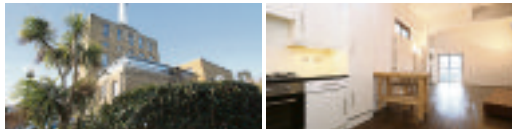

Newly Formed Gated Development In This Private Road Adjacent To The Prestigious Benfleet Road And Ideally Located For Hadleigh Country Park, Hadleigh Castle And Olympic Cycle Track \ King John School Catchment \ Lounge/Kitchen/Diner 23'7 x 16'10 Widening To 18'9 In Bay Area \ Ground Floor W.c \ Ground Floor Bedroom One 13'10 x 12'10 With En-Suite Shower Room \ First Floor Bedroom Two 16'11 x 9'8 \ First Floor Bedroom Three 11'9 x 11'5 \ Dressing Room/ Study 7'5 x 5'5 \ Well Fitted Family Bathroom Suite \ Pleasant Landscaped Gardens \ Off Street Parking \ Karndean Flooring \ To The Ground Floor Reception Area \ Isolated Sprinkler System \ Satellite And Freewiew Television Connectivity \ Quartz Worktops \ Luxury Kitchen With Quartz Worktops, Bosch Ovens And Integrated Bosch Dishwasher And Bosch Fridge Freezer \ No Onward Chain \ Sole Agents \ **Call 01702 555888** or **live chat at amosestates.com**

THUNDERSLEY / **£350,000**
**IMMACULATE
FAMILY
HOME**

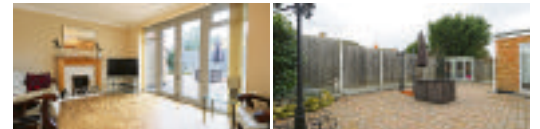

Well Presented Three Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home Situated On The Ever Popular 'Ashcroft Place' Development With The King John School Catchment \ Ground Floor W.c \ Lounge/Diner 15'5 x 15'2 \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 11'4 x 8'3 \ Bedroom One 10'8 x 9'5 With En-Suite Shower Room \ Bedroom Two 12'10 Max x 8'1 \ Bedroom Three 7'6 x 7'2 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite \ Low Maintenance Rear Garden \ Garage 23'2 x 9'10 \ Off Street Parking \ Walking Distance To Seevic College \ Close To Local Amenities \ Easy Access Of A127 And A13 Trunk Roads \ Viewing Advised \ EPC - B \ **Call 01702 555888** or **live chat at amosestates.com**

HOCKLEY / **£265,000**
**LUXURY
APARTMENT**


Stunning Two Bedroom Apartment \ Stylishly Decorated Home \ Spacious Lounge \ Designer Kitchen \ Large Bathroom \ Fabulous 'Folly Gate' Development Close To Hockley Woods, Station & Shops \ Allocated & Visitor Parking \ Really Nice Property That Will Generate Huge Interest \ **Call Hockley Office on 01702 207720 Or Live Chat at amosestates.com**

ROCHFORD LOFTS / **£225,000**

Wow! An Exceptional Apartment \ Garde Two Listed Rochford Lofts Development \ Funky Spotlessly Maintained \ Communal Areas \ Huge Accommodation \ High Ceilings \ Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room/Kitchen \ Huge Bedroom \ Modern Bathroom Suite \ Mezzanine Storage Area \ Two Parking Spaces In Secure Parking Area \ Long 982 Year Lease \ Keys Held For Immediate Viewing \ **Call Hockley Office 01702 207720 or Live Chat At amosestates.com**

RAYLEIGH / **£430,000 - £450,000**

Individual Four Bedroom Detached House / Potential Annex/ Teenager Suite / Perfect For Dual Occupancy / West Backing Rear Garden / Fitzwimarc And Grove Wood Catchment / Self Contained Bedroom And En Suite \ Stylishly Decorated Home / **Call Rayleigh Office 01702 207720 or live chat at amosestates.com**

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Agent Directory

Auctions power ahead while private treaties stall, says Auction House

Research by the UK's leading auctioneer suggests that the auction market is continuing to prosper, while estate agent sales are still struggling. Auction House – which has a branch in Essex – says the latest data from the Land Registry indicates that 2017 saw a 21% decrease in residential sales compared to 2016, whilst the group's own auction figures were at record levels. Director, Andrew Stallard said: "We had an excellent year in 2017 with 3,485 lots sold – which is over 1,250 ahead of the second largest auctioneer. Also, our entries this month are up again year-on-year, with 740 lots catalogued for February – a total which is 5% ahead of the number in 2017." Andrew says that he believes the reason behind the rise is because auction has now become more mainstream, with its attractions better understood. He explains: "There are two ways to sell a property. The first is to start low and bid up – as happens in auctions. The other is the 'start high and discount down' method used by estate agents. If your property is suitable for auction, then the selling price achieved will be around the same level or sometimes better, and the sale will be quick and easy. What's more, when the hammer falls contracts have exchanged and the sale is certain. "But there are some provisos. Firstly you should be entering it into a regional auction room where local properties tend to be sold to local buyers for more money, rather than one that is out of area. Secondly, the marketing and reserve price will both need to be right – and you can trust Auction House to help with this." Andrew also says that a wide variety of properties fall into the category of those most suited to auction. He adds: "Our results show

that any property that would benefit from refurbishment, renovation or development is right for auction, or where there are issues such as a short lease, structural concerns, or other factors that make them unmortgageable. "We regularly sell commercial lots, mixed use, all sorts of land, plus ground rents and all manner of other unusual lots. We also sell residential investments for landlords who leave their tenants in residence when selling – the big benefit here is that the seller keeps receiving rent until completion and the purchasing landlord takes over the tenancy and draws income from the day that they complete their purchase. "Selling by auction really does make sense. That's why it is growing in popularity, becoming more mainstream and delivering a speedy result for an increasing number of sellers." If you have a property that might be suitable for auction, then please call Auction House on 01702 33 33 99.



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Volvo XC60 named UK Car of the Year



TOP HONOUR: The Volvo XC60

By Chris Russon

THE Volvo XC60 has been crowned the overall winner at the UK Car of the Year Awards 2018.

After scooping Best Medium Crossover when the category winners were announced in January, the Volvo went up against another 12 triumphant new cars to fight it out for the top honour.

It is the first time that Volvo has won the overall prize at the awards and the company has gone one better than 2016, when the XC90 was runner-up.

"The XC60 being crowned UK Car of the Year 2018 is very well deserved, at a time when crossovers are becoming increasingly popular," said John Challen, director of the UK Car of the Year

Full list of UK Car of the Year Awards 2018 winners

Best Supermini
SEAT Ibiza
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Volkswagen Golf
Best Family
Peugeot 3008
Best Executive
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Volvo XC60
Best Large Crossover
Skoda Kodiaq
Best Coupe
Lexus LC
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Mazda MX-5 RF
Best Hot Hatch
Hyundai i30 N
Best Performance
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Awards. "Having come close in 2016 with the XC90, it's fantastic to see Volvo now claim the top spot with its smaller – but every bit as impressive – stablemate."

Fellow director Alisdair Suttie, added: "The XC60 is everything you ever thought a Scandinavian SUV should be – and more. Magnificent quality, comfort and space."

Jon Wakefield, managing director at Volvo Car UK, said: "Winning both the overall UK Car of the Year and Best Medium

Crossover awards is a fantastic achievement for Volvo. The awards reflect the desirability and sophistication of the XC60 and the elegant Scandinavian design, cutting-edge technology and luxurious equipment levels have proved a big hit with customers."

In the most closely-contested overall category in UK Car of the Year Awards history, the XC60 triumphed over the Skoda Kodiaq by a single point, with BMW's 5 Series finishing in third place.

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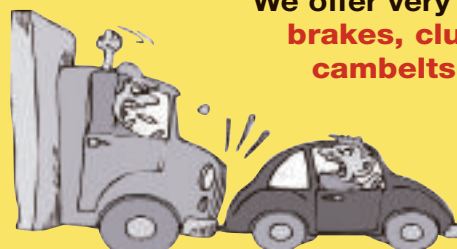
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RED HOT

Football

Liverpool 4-1 West Ham United Brian Jeeves reporting from Anfield

WEST HAM United endured a second-half onslaught as Liverpool scored three times in the second half to record a comfortable victory in a one-sided contest.

Hammers manager, David Moyes arrived at Anfield in the knowledge that he hadn't recorded a competitive victory as a manager at the Reds' home.

Speaking before the match, he said: "It's tough for any club going to Liverpool. I've never known it any different."

Patrice Evra was preferred to Winston Reid and Declan Rice, who were on the bench.

Liverpool went into the match looking to extend an unbeaten home league sequence stretching back to April 2017 when Palace won by the odd goal in three – a run of 15 games.

Having taken 19 points from their previous eight league matches, Liverpool had established themselves as the division's in form team.

It was almost an explosive start from the Reds – Hammers keeper, Adrian, pushing Mo Salah's low attempt onto the foot of an upright.

Soon after, Adrian was called upon again, this time comfortably

Liverpool on fire as lukewarm Hammers are humbled

fielding Virgil van Dijk's header from Milner's pinpoint flag-kick.

However, despite making the better start, Liverpool almost fell behind when Marko Arnautovic's audacious chip beat Loris Karius, but agonisingly hit the underside of the crossbar.

Buoyed by their initial foray forward, Pablo Zabaleta sent a crisp volley across the face of goal as the Hammers looked to step up the intensity.

But it was the Reds who continued to look the more likely. Adrian flicked over Andrew Robertson's troublesome centre, but from the third in a series of corners, Emre Can nodded home from close range.

The goal settled the home side, who swiftly looked to double their advantage. Salah headed over after Robertson had picked him out.

However, once again Arnautovic almost stunned the Kop, this time Karius brilliantly tipped over his curling strike which looked destined for the top corner of the net.

But five minutes after the break Liverpool as good as finished the contest. Salah coolly rolled the ball past Adrian after Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain had fashioned an opening.

West Ham buckled. Adrian saved

from Sadio Mane, but seconds later Roberto Firmino tiptoed around the keeper before rolling into an empty net for the Reds' third.

But West Ham refused to throw in the towel. Substitute Michail Antonio reduced the arrears, racing onto Chiekhou Kouyate's through-pass before beating Karius with a low angled strike.

Mane became the third player to hit the woodwork as Liverpool looked to put icing on an already attractively decorated cake. But when presented with another opportunity soon after, the Senegalese frontman beat Adrian with nonchalant ease for the Reds' fourth.

After the game, Moyes could see some positives, saying: "I thought we played quite well in the first half. I thought we showed some good moments and were maybe a bit unlucky not to go ahead."

But the Hammers boss admitted that facing a potent Liverpool attack had proved to be a huge problem for his side, adding: "It's really difficult to deal with them. We worked most of the week to try and find a way that we could curtail them the best we could."

"I think there were parts of it where we did. Today was the first day I think we gave away individ-

ual mistakes that led to goals."

Meanwhile, Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp said: "I'm really happy with the complete performance. All the individual performances were really good today."

"We scored fantastic goals and we created a lot more chances – and that's against a David Moyes team – really good, organised, in a good moment in the league and good individual quality. Today I have nothing to criticise."

West Ham United return to Premier League action on Saturday, March 3 when they travel to the Liberty Stadium to face Swansea City (3pm).

Liverpool: Loris Karius, Virgil van Dijk, James Milner (capt), Roberto Firmino (Adam Lallana 82'), Mohamed Salah (Dominic Solanke 87'), Sadio Mane (Alberto Moreno 87'), Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Emre Can, Andrew Robertson, Joel Matip, Trent Alexander-Arnold. Subs not used: Simon Mignolet, Dejan Lovren, Joe Gomez, Jordan Henderson.

West Ham United: Adrian, Aaron Cresswell, Pablo Zabaleta, Marko Arnautovic (Javier Hernandez 83'), Chiekhou Kouyate, Manuel Lanzini (Michail Antonio 58'), Mark Noble (capt), Joao Mario (Declan Rice 83'), James Collins, Angelo Ogbonna, Patrice Evra. Subs not used: Joe Hart, Winston Reid, Jordan Hugill, Sam Byram.

Referee: Stuart Attwell
Assistants: Richard West, Mark Scholes
Fourth Official: Martin Atkinson
Attendance: 53,256

Non-league round-up

Daggers snatch late success

By Brian Jeeves

NATIONAL League Dagenham & Redbridge briefly put aside their financial issues with an 3-2 victory over Chester FC at Victoria Road.

Fejiri Okenabirhie handed the Daggers an early lead. However, Jordan Archer and Matty Waters appeared to have won it for the visitors as they snatched a seemingly vital advantage. But with four minutes remaining, Okenabirhie bagged his second of the afternoon to restore parity before a late Andy Hall own-goal handed John Still's men all three points in front of a 1,254 crowd.

In the National South Division, a goal from Daniel Thompson just after the half-hour mark ensured Braintree Town a 1-0 success over Poole Town at Crossing Road.

Montel Agyemang salvaged a point for East Thurrock United after Jack Batten had handed visitors Bath City the lead at Rookery Hill.

But it proved to be a frustrating afternoon for Chelmsford City, who went down 2-0 at Oxford City, and Concord Rangers, who were beaten by the same margin by Welling United at the Aspect Arena.

It was a frustrating afternoon for the region's sides competing in the quarter-finals of the Buildbase FA Trophy. Leyton Orient raced into a 3-0 lead against Gateshead at Brisbane Road thanks to goals from Josh Koroma, Ebou Adams and Josh Coulson. But Heed hit back to earn a reply thanks to a brace from Danny Johnson and one from Richard Peniket.

It's the end of the Wembley road for Billericay Town after being soundly beaten by National South side, Wealdstone, at the AGP Arena – Rob Swaine and Ricky Modeste with the home side's goals in a 5-2 defeat. After the match, it was rumoured that Billericay Town manager Glenn Tamplin had stepped down. An announcement is expected shortly.

Troubled Thurrock recorded a resounding 5-2 Boostik League Premier Division success at Burgess Hill Town. Charlie Stimson bagged a brace for the Ship Lane outfit. Reece Morgan, Lewwis Spence and Ronnie Winn were also on target.

Aveley won their Bostik North clash with Cheshunt 4-1 at Parkside. Tom Richardson scored twice, while Connor Whitterspoon and Lewis Gard also found the net. Ben Sartain and David Knight ensured Bowers & Pitsea a 2-0 success over AFC Sudbury at the Len Salmon Stadium. Meanwhile, Craig Jeakins and a Greg Akpele penalty gave Romford a 2-1 win over Barking – Izzy Bademosi with the visitors' response.

At the top of the table, AFC Hornchurch drew 1-1 with Tilbury at Bridge Avenue. Christian Assombalonga was on target for the Urchins, Harry Norman ensured a share of the spoils for the Dockers.

James Walker scored for Canvey Island in a 1-1 draw at Potters Bar Town, and it was the same at the Brentwood Arena where a goal from former West Ham man, Tony Stokes, helped Brentwood Town salvage a point against Dereham Town.

Waltham Abbey and Grays Athletic both played out goalless encounters with Bury Town and Soham Town Rangers respectively.

Maldon & Tiptree went down 2-1 to Mildenhall Town at the Wallace Binder Stadium – Joe Ellul with the Jammers goal.

Ilford were the big winners in the Essex Senior League, easing past Southend Manor 3-0 at the Southchurch Park Arena. Basildon United remain in the title chase after a 2-0 win at Barkingside, while FC Romania secured a 3-1 victory against West Essex. Waltham Forest went down 2-1 to Enfield 1893.

Hullbridge Sports and Wadhaw Lodge played out an entertaining 2-2 draw at Lower Road, while the game between Sawbridgeworth Town and Great Wakering Rovers, fell foul of the weather.

Action from the ProKit UK Essex Olympian League saw Basildon Town win their Premier Division clash with Bishop's Stortford Swifts 3-1.

Kelvedon Hatch won 4-1 at Leigh Ramblers, while Rayleigh Town edged out May & Baker E.C.

In Division One, Hutton Thressed Old Southendian 6-1, while Shenfield AFC were 4-0 winners over Old Chelmsfordians.

Kane's late winner saves the day for Spurs

Crystal Palace 0 Tottenham Hotspur 1 Brian Jeeves reporting from Selhurst Park

MAURICIO Pochettino insisted that his Tottenham Hotspur side deserved all three points after Harry Kane headed a late winner to see off Crystal Palace on Sunday.

Kane's 24th Premier League goal of the season settled an otherwise poor encounter, springboarding Spurs back into the top four, and Pochettino admitted that the number of chances his side passed up had him concerned that the breakthrough wouldn't come.

"We dominated the game and in the end, we deserved the victory. It

was late but we fully deserved it. "We had the chances and the performance was good. It wasn't easy to play here against a team that was difficult to break down. In the end, the three points is the most important thing."

The Spurs boss heaped praise on Kane and his teammates, who he thought were rewarded for their patience and persistence. "That is what is the most important thing today – the maturity. The team never gives up. There is a belief that we can change the game. It's a good quality that we have to keep."

Pochettino continued: "All top players like Harry can miss chances, but what makes this type

of player top is that in the moment they miss a chance, they forget it and they try to create another."

"You can call it confidence, trust, belief in yourself, patience. They are what make this type of player top."

Meanwhile, Palace chief, Roy Hodgson, said: "It's very frustrating. I feel really sorry for the players."

"I thought we worked so hard so it's cruel when you concede so late in the game. I'm really sad for the players."

Spurs face Rochdale in the Emirates FA Cup fifth-round replay at Wembley Stadium on Wednesday (7.45pm). They return to Premier League action on Saturday, March 3 when Huddersfield Town are the

visitors (3pm).

Crystal Palace: Wayne Hennessey, Patrick van Aanholt, Luka Milivojevic (Capt), James Tomkins (Damien Delaney 85'), Alexander Sorloth, Andros Townsend (Chung-Yong Lee 87'), Christian Benteke, James McArthur, Timothy Fosu-Mensah, Aaron Wan-Bissaka, Jairo Riedewald. Subs not used: Dion-Curtis Henry (GK), Pape Souare, Jason Lokilo, Erdal Rakip, Nya Kirby.

Tottenham Hotspur: Hugo Lloris (capt), Davinson Sanchez, Harry Kane, Erik Lamela (Luca Moura 66'), Victor Wanyama, Eric Dier, Mousa Dembele (Heung-Min Son 80'), Dele Alli, Christian Eriksen, Serge Aurier, Ben Davies. Subs not used: Michel Vorm, Kieran Trippier, Danny Rose, Moussa Sissoko, Juan Foyth.

Referee: K. Friend

Assistants: H. Lennard, M. Wilkes

Fourth Official: C. Kavanagh

Attendance: 25,287

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